



*A World of Knowledge*

**MAIN LIBRARY  
CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM  
115 West C Street**

**Newton, NC 28658**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Library a resource for senior citizens**

**By Tammy Wilson  
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Catawba County Library System**

When we think about libraries, we often think of children and teens who use library materials for homework and school projects.

In reality, adults make up the lion's share of registered library patrons. Catawba County Library System has more than 77,000 registered borrowers with more than 53,000 of them over age 18.

Of course many of these adult patrons are seniors who appreciate the many services the library provides. Large-print items are popular among older folks who have difficulty reading small type. Likewise, audio books are a boon to those with visual impairments. The price of one large-print book or audiobook is at least \$35.

Main Library has a ClearView+ mechanical reader available for visitors in Newton. Ask a reference librarian for instructions.

Seniors on tight budgets, like their younger counterparts, appreciate the free services at the library, too—from free Internet and email access to availability of newspapers and magazines and DVDs at no cost.

The Rhodes Local History Room is popular spot with retirees interested in tracing their family history, organizing reunions or researching events or places from the past. Located on the ground floor of the Main Library in Newton, the collection includes thousands of references, family files and other research helps. The room is open year-round Tuesday through Saturday.

Moreover, Friends of the Library, with groups in Newton, Sherrills Ford and Claremont, is a useful outlet for anyone interested in supporting the library. Information about these advocacy groups is available by contacting librarians in those locations.

A number of retirees will want to take advantage of free tax preparation service being offered by AARP volunteers at the Main Library. Volunteers will be available Tuesdays from Feb. 2 through April 6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the auditorium. The free service is available this year on a first-come, first-served basis.



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